

Physician paid in different currency

By Erich Bridges

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Missionary surgeon John Tarpley shows two sets of slides when he speaks of his work in Nigeria: one for church groups and one for folks with strong stomachs.

Even third-year medical students groaned when Tarpley showed the second slide set at a Christian Medical Society fellowship last year in Virginia. Nobody expected full-color, life-size shots of goiters, tumors and gaping wounds at an after-dinner session. Tarpley chuckled and went on with the show.

"You don't have to be smart to be a good doctor," the 38-year old surgeon told the group. "You have to be compulsive. You have to pay attention." Then he dared the future physicians to try missionary medicine before giving their careers to fighting smokers' cancer and overeaters' heart attacks in the United States.

The teacher, preacher, and doctor laces medical lectures with sermons and vice versa. At speaking engagements he sports polka-dot bow ties and loud pants that complement his unruly red hair and mustache, but his jaunty style doesn't mask the intensity in his eyes.

Tarpley came home on furlough from Nigeria determined to challenge Southern Baptists in particular and the American Christian medical community in general to get serious about medical ministry in the third world. He is one of 54 missionary physicians Southern Baptists support overseas while requests for 32 more go unfilled. Some hospitals are crippled by vacancies.

"I used to go to a church where seven orthopedic surgeons were members," said Tarpley. "In Nigeria, when my missionary surgeon partner was on furlough, I was the only general surgeon in an area of a million people." That, he added, is an "ego trip" he could do without.

Baptist Medical Centre in Ogbomoso, where he practices, has pleaded for a missionary pediatrician for two years. "We're playing at missionary medicine," Tarpley challenged Christian physicians. "We ought to get in or get out."

He carried that message all over the country last year,



Missionary physician John Tarpley is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Tarpley of Jackson. The senior Tarpley is retired director of missions for the Hinds-Madison Baptist Association. John has two brothers: Fred, Jr., a teacher at Emory University in Atlanta; and Joe, who along with his wife, Beverly, is a dorm parent for missionary kids in Jos, Nigeria.

sandwiching speaking trips between occasional sleep and 12-hour days teaching and performing surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Baltimore. He returned to Nigeria in September.

(Continued on page 5)

Jews show concern in wake of Jerusalem church fire

By Elizabeth F. Smith

JERUSALEM (BP)—It was an unlikely synagogue service.

A Baptist pastor preached, then accepted a Hebrew pulpit Bible from a local rabbi.

Baptist representative Robert L. Lindsey was the pastor. The inscription inside the Bible's cover, written in English and Hebrew, explained the occasion and the gift.

"This Hebrew Bible is presented to the Baptist congregation of West Jerusalem by your neighbor Har-El congregation of Jerusalem (Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism) as a token of friendship and encouragement after the fire which destroyed your house of prayer."

Authorities say the Oct. 8 church fire was arson. The investigation continues, but no arrests have been made.

When the rabbi invited Lindsey to speak at the Friday evening service, he admitted, "I didn't have the nerve to ask you to speak but my people asked." The synagogue is just around the corner from the Baptist property.

"The warmth of the people is so genuine and beautiful," Lindsey said of the Jewish congregation and hundreds of other people who have visited or sent letters, gifts and offers of help in rebuilding.

Local people have expressed concern in a variety of ways. One Jewish teacher said she took an hour with each of her high school English classes to talk to them about the arson and her long-standing friendship with Baptists. "I must educate them for total living and not just teach them an academic subject," she stressed.

Israelis from all parts of society have contributed money to the congregation, from Jerusalem Mayor

Teddy Kollek to workers at a nearby butcher shop. Kollek launched a public fund to help in rebuilding the Baptist chapel by opening special accounts in several Jerusalem banks.

Elementary students, congregations of churches and synagogues, civic clubs, merchants' associations, and interfaith groups have sent checks.

Local and foreign architects have volunteered to draw preliminary sketches of the proposed chapel. A prominent gardener has offered to landscape the property. Christian organizations abroad, including the Baptist World Alliance and American Baptist Churches, U.S.A., have expressed interest in the new building program.

Estimates for a new chapel stand at \$1 million. An inflation rate of 130 percent in Israel threatens that estimate.

The congregation built a temporary meeting place on its parking lot. A heavy plastic covering protects the 400-450 worshippers who attend Saturday morning services. Winter rain and snow haven't hampered attendance.

Work on fire-damaged Baptist House, adjacent to the burned chapel, is almost complete. The congregation and the Baptist Convention of Israel use offices and classrooms in the two-story stone building.

The fire apparently was not an isolated incident. Physical assaults on clergymen, theft of liturgical emblems, the daubing of swastikas and anti-Christian slogans, and arson attempts against other Christian property have been reported since the fire. City and national officials continue to denounce such acts.

Israel's President Yitzhak Navon has ordered his minister of police to make apprehension of the people who

have been daubing swastikas and burning churches the top police priority.

(Elizabeth F. Smith is a press representative with the Baptist Convention of Israel.)

Woman's photo was Mrs. Hull

Charles Hull, layman of First Church, Winona, recently presented a Cessna 210 aircraft to the Foreign Mission Board. It was accepted during services at First Church by Cordell Akin, missionary to Tanzania.

Information accompanying a picture with the story identified the woman in the picture as Mrs. Akin during a part of the press run for that week. The identity was corrected during the latter part of the run, and the woman was Mrs. Hull.

Church "adopts" music minister; God gets credit for healing

By Anne Washburn McWilliams
"He Touched Me" is John Woodham's favorite hymn. Would anyone who hears his story wonder why he likes to sing. "He touched me and made me whole?"

Four months after he became music minister at First Baptist Church, Soso, his skull was crushed in a car wreck—so badly that "his brain was running out his ear." A surgeon predicted, "I'll give him one chance in ten to live, and

no chance to walk or talk again." But today John Woodham at age 24 is what some call "a walking miracle" and pastor and members of First Baptist Church, Soso, have taken the young man under their wing, so to speak, and "adopted" him.

It was near dusk one January day in 1982 when John topped a hill near Soso and realized that an on-coming car was in his lane. He snatched the wheel to avoid the car, and lost control. The next thing he remembers is seeing a crowd around him, and the Soso pastor, Jim Beck, kneeling beside him, praying. "I didn't feel any pain, didn't at first realize that it was I who was hurt. Briefly, later, I realized what was going on and I thought 'How terrible.' Then I felt hands touching me, to help."

Beck went with him in the ambulance, first to Laurel and then to Hattiesburg, where a tracheotomy was done and where brain surgery was done. The doctor told Beck, "Don't build your hopes too high."

A year later, after John's astonishing recovery, Beck reports that this

doctor said to him, "That night I simply washed off his bleeding and swollen brain and stuck it back into his head. It was in such bad condition that I didn't even try to repair it." The doctor gave God the credit for the healing. "I sent him to Jackson for further surgery, and left him in the hands of God."

John was in Jackson hospitals for a good while, including six weeks at the Methodist Rehabilitation Center. He spent some time with his mom and dad in Florida and his sister in Daleville, Ala.

During the fall before the accident, he had completed requirements for a degree in church music from William Carey College. In May, 1982, he walked across the stage at graduation time and accepted his degree. The crowd gave him a standing ovation. President Ralph Noonkester stopped the proceedings to explain the ovation.

Meanwhile, Trey Carter of WDM-TV, Laurel, was serving as interim minister of music at Soso.

John, a Florida native, had been on his own financially since age 15—had

(Continued on page 5)



Elephants don't sing; they trumpet. Anyhow, John Woodham, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Soso, displays his collection of 40 elephants in the house that women of the church decorated for him.

Want to do a little reading?

WHEATON, Ill. (EP)—"The World's Smallest Book" is currently on display in the Billy Graham Center Museum at Wheaton College. Published by the Toppan Company of Japan, the book, which contains the Lord's Prayer, is ten pages long and measures 1.4 by 1.4 millimeters. It is the current record holder for the world's smallest book.

Miniature books normally range from one inch to three inches and have been prized by collectors for their craftsmanship as well as their obvious portability. The earliest known miniature book, titled "Diurnale Moguntinum," was published in 1468, only 13 years after Gutenberg introduced movable type.

Rogers nixes resolutions which might hurt missions

WASHINGTON (BP)—Former Southern Baptist Convention president Adrian Rogers says the SBC should not pass any resolution on Israel that would hurt missionary endeavors.

In Washington for a meeting involving evangelicals and Orthodox Jewish rabbis at the Israeli embassy, Rogers told Baptist Press any resolution considered by messengers to an annual meeting of the convention would have to be "so wisely written" so as not to pose a threat to SBC missionaries in Arab countries.

He also declared such a resolution ought not deal with "narrow eschatological interpretations." Eschatology is the study of the end of time.

Rogers, who was SBC president in 1979-80, said he is not part of a move to

have this June's Pittsburgh convention reconsider a resolution of support for Israel. A recent announcement by last year's resolutions committee chairman Norris W. Sydnor Jr. that he intends to reintroduce the explosive statement has provoked strong negative reactions from denominational leaders, including a warning from Foreign Mission Board president R. Keith Parks.

The statement, tabled by messengers at last year's meeting in New Orleans, urged that the U.S. government "publicly and privately assure Israel and her enemies of such support." Parks has warned that such a resolution would jeopardize Southern Baptist missionary efforts in the Middle East and in other areas of the world where Moslem influence is strong.

The

Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

JACKSON MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1983

Volume CVII, Number 6

Proposal praised and attacked

Tuition tax credits called "foot-in-door"

WASHINGTON (BP)—More than one-half million signatures on petitions opposing President Reagan's tuition tax credit proposal have been delivered to key congressional opponents of the measure. At the same time the Secretary of Education defended the proposal on the grounds of providing equity for parents with children in private schools.

The National Coalition for Public Education, representing 45 education, labor, civil rights and church groups (including the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs) turned over the petitions to Sen. Ernest F. Hollings, D-S.C., and Rep. Timothy E. Wirth, D-Colo., at a Capitol Hill press conference.

Hollings and Wirth attacked the tax credit proposal as expensive, unfair and unconstitutional.

Despite administration estimates that the phased-in program would cost only \$200 million in fiscal 1984, climbing to \$800 million by 1986, Hollings charged it would eventually become a \$20 billion government program and criticized Reagan for proposing it in light of his repeated pledge to cut the size of the federal government.

Wirth charged the administration program would mean federal government spending per pupil in private

schools, attended by approximately 10 percent of the nation's students, would exceed per pupil expenditures in public schools.

By proposing the measure, he added, the administration is neglecting "fundamental fairness."

In addition to calling tuition tax credits a "foot-in-the-door" economically and a "budget buster," Hollings said the measure is also "foot-in-the-door constitutionally," noting 90 percent of private schools have religious affiliations.

Hollings said much of the flight from public schools to private schools is an effort to avoid integrated education and, by proposing tuition tax credits, the administration is encouraging parents to seek alternatives to integrated education.

The Supreme Court, Hollings said, "has made clear the duty of public government in education. It has a fundamental responsibility to foster and support public schools. Its responsibility to private schools is to leave them alone."

Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell has defended tuition tax credits as a proposal designed to provide equity for parents who send their children to non-public schools, not to benefit private institutions.

Bell told a House appropriations

subcommittee the proposal also is designed to encourage diversity and competition in the education system.

Under the proposal, parents with adjusted gross incomes of \$40,000 or less would receive a tax credit of \$100 this year, \$200 in 1984 and \$300 in 1985, he said. Smaller credits would be given to parents with adjusted gross incomes up to \$60,000.

Bell also outlined a proposed voucher system to meet the needs of disadvantaged children. "Some children need an option besides their Title I school. Under our proposal, a child could go to another public school or a private school."

The voucher program would be under local school authority, he said, but "there has not been an overwhelming interest in the voucher system by school districts," even though "a few individuals want the flexibility of the money following the child."

The secretary of education was appearing before the subcommittee to request \$13.2 billion for fiscal year 1984 and a reduction of \$1.2 billion from the 1983 enacted appropriation level of \$15.1 billion. Budget initiatives for 1984 include a requirement that college students provide at least 40 percent of their costs from non-government sources before receiving federal grant assistance.

Youth Night has music openings

Many of the worship leaders for the 1983 Mississippi Baptist Youth Night, Aug. 12 at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson, will be Mississippi's own talented young people. The worship experience will involve a mass youth choir, a Youth Night band, an honors Youth Night handbell choir, and the state vocal and keyboard festival winners. Baptist youths (7th-12th grade) from all parts of the state are invited to participate.

The Youth Night Choir, under the direction of Clark Adams, Clarke College, is open to all youths. The selections to be sung during Youth Night will be taught to all those attending the Gulfshore Youth Music Conferences I and II, July 11-15 and July 15-19, and the Blue Mountain Youth Music Conference, Aug. 1-5. Any youth unable to attend these conferences may learn the music and be prepared to sing with the choir. The music listed below is (Continued on page 5)

Baby "John the Baptist" found

A newborn infant, left on the doorstep of First Church, Picaune, Feb. 27, would have been dead within an hour if he hadn't been found by a member of the church opening up for Sunday services.

Attending physician Lakshmi Nandiwada at Crosby Memorial Hospital in Picaune said the infant's temperature was at 92.5; and he would have lived, at most, another hour, she told the Baptist Record.

The baby was found by Holles Leake at 8:30 that Sunday morning at a side door of the church. He immediately phoned police, who took the baby to the hospital and later to Jackson for placement in a foster home. The baby was reported in good health, and state welfare officials were said to be searching for the parents.

Pastor Raymond Leake said the child was affectionately known as "little John the Baptist" among church members. Leake said that though the baby was taken from the church's sphere of influence, "the ones we need to be concerned about are the little Mary and Jake the Baptists who will still be around us and whom we will influence."

Leake wrote in the church bulletin, "As Christians it would appear to me that we need to provide counsel for those who find themselves unable to cope with whatever life sends their way. Desperation sometimes drives us to extremes." He added, "We need to let people know we can help to offer them alternatives to the sometimes stark decisions they feel compelled to make."

Leake said a large number of church members offered to adopt the baby.

God's Challenge for Our Land

Week of Prayer for Home Missions March 6-13, 1983



1. In Chaplaincy Ministries

Maurice Graham, chaplain at St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, visits one of his patients. Graham is one of approximately 2,000 chaplains endorsed by the Home Mission Board. Chaplains minister to people in the military, in hospitals, in institutions, and in industry. Annie Armstrong Offering Allocation for Chaplaincy Ministries: \$164,000.



2. In Church Extension Ministries

For Bonnie McAllister, church extension missionary in Worcester, Massachusetts, making personal contacts is the heart of her job. Annie Armstrong Offering Allocation for Church Extension Ministries: \$3,450,000.

4. In Christian Social Ministries

Rachel Hernandez, who attends the Baptist Center in El Paso, Texas, is one of thousands whose lives are touched by Christian social ministries. Annie Armstrong Offering Allocation for Christian Social Ministries: \$2,450,000.

3. In Interfaith Witness

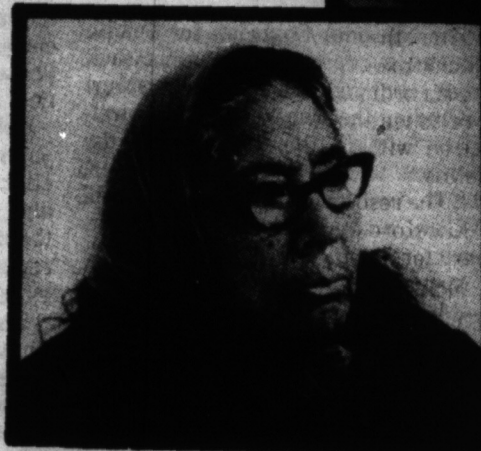
How to reach people in religious cults like these Hare Krishnas is a growing concern among Southern Baptists. The Home Mission Board's Interfaith Witness Department helps Southern Baptists know how to deal with cults and witness to people of other religious faiths. Annie Armstrong Offering Allocation for Interfaith Witness: \$288,000.

5. In Language Missions

Jane Poole teaches Laotian children about Jesus at First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. But how to reach all 270 language and ethnic groups who live in the United States with God's love is one of the greatest challenges Southern Baptists face. Annie Armstrong Offering Allocation for Language Missions: \$5,300,000.

**Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering
for Home Missions**

**National Goal:
\$25,000,000**



"Let us . . .
not forget to
do good and
share
with others,
for with
such sacrifices
God is pleased."
(Heb. 13:15-16 NIV)

\$125 million Cooperative Program budget proposed

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—A \$125 million Cooperative Program budget for 1983-84 featuring nearly 70 percent to home and foreign missions, will be recommended to the 1983 Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh.

The budget, an increase of \$19 million above the 1982-83 budget, was approved without opposition by the Southern Baptist Executive Committee during its February meeting.

The budget includes \$114,500,000 in the basic operating budget; \$3,340,385 in the capital needs section and \$7,159,615 in a two-base challenge portion.

That compares with the current budget of \$96,635,000 in the basic operating budget; \$3,365,000 for capital needs and \$6,000,000 in the challenge section.

Committee members also approved a 1984-85 capital needs budget of \$31,740,000.

Under the Cooperative Program budget, the Foreign Mission Board will receive \$57,250,000, compared with \$47,839,300 in the current year. The Home Mission Board is allocated \$22,634,400 compared with \$19,000,000 in 1982-83.

The six seminaries will receive \$23,605,000 compared to \$20,520,000 in the current year. Golden Gate will receive \$2,312,316 (compared to \$1,917,049); Midwestern, \$2,002,209 (compared to \$1,775,897); New Orleans, \$3,967,340 (compared to \$3,437,840); Southeastern, \$3,707,795 (compared to \$3,201,053); Southern, \$5,040,915 (compared to \$4,497,014) and Southwestern, \$6,574,425 (compared to \$5,691,748).

The SBC operating budget will receive \$1,635,300 (compared to \$1,422,000). The other agencies are allocated:

Annuity Board, \$918,000 (compared to \$478,000); Southern Baptist Foundation, \$243,400 (compared to \$218,450); American Baptist Seminary Commission, \$227,850 (compared to \$203,450); Brotherhood Commission, \$848,900 (compared to \$758,100);

Christian Life Commission, \$710,000 (compared to \$562,800); Education Commission \$423,800 (compared to \$378,400); Historical Commission \$393,600 (compared to \$328,000); Radio and TV Commission \$4,813,350 (compared to \$4,229,000); Stewardship Commission \$396,150 (compared to \$344,500) and Public Affairs Committee \$400,250 (compared to \$357,400).

The capital needs portion of the 1983-84 budget includes:

Midwestern Seminary, \$786,690 for a multi-purpose building; New Orleans Seminary, \$201,295 for a student center and cafeteria; Southern Seminary, \$1,335,000 for a student center; Southwestern Seminary, \$699,000 for renovation work, and the Radio and Television Commission, \$318,400 for equipment.

Phase one of the challenge budget includes \$1,175,000, of which 63.83 percent or \$750,000 will go to the six seminaries and 36.17 percent, or \$425,000 will go to the Radio and Television Commission.

Phase two—\$5,984,615—includes: SBC Operating Budget, \$125,000 for Baptist World Alliance (2.09 percent); Foreign Mission Board, \$3,001,700 (50.16); Home Mission Board,

\$1,505,500 (25.16); SBC seminaries, \$1,302,415 (21.76) and Brotherhood Commission, \$50,000 (.83).

Any overage of the \$125,000,000 will be distributed to all agencies according to the percentage they will receive in the basic operating budget.

The 1984-85 capital needs budget of \$31,740,000 compares with the current, six-year capital needs budget of \$16,705,985. Chairman John Sullivan of Shreveport, La., said noting that \$83,343,400 was requested for capital needs funding.

In the budget, 14 of the 20 SBC agencies are represented. Included is \$8 million for funding a new building to house the SBC Executive Committee, Seminary External Education Division and five SBC agencies. It is the first allocation of capital needs they have received. All of the funding for the SBC Building will come during 1984-85 and 1985-86.

The Executive Committee will receive increments of \$1,800,000 and \$1,400,000 for a total of \$3,200,000. Others include: Stewardship Commission, \$495,000 and \$385,000 for \$880,000; Historical Commission, \$720,000 and \$560,000 for \$1,280,000; Education Commission, \$225,000 and \$175,000 for \$400,000; Christian Life Commission, \$630,000 and \$490,000 for \$1,120,000 and Southern Baptist Foundation, \$180,000 and \$140,000 for \$320,000.

The SEED allocation will be divided equally between the six seminaries in increments of \$75,000 and \$58,333 or a total of \$133,333 each. The composite amount will be \$450,000 and \$350,000, a two-year total of \$800,000.

Also receiving capital needs funds are the Home Mission Board, \$2,400,000 for church loans for churches with limited resources and purchase of potential church sites; and the Radio and Television Commission, \$2,025,000 for a master control center, post production center, Studio A equipment and mobile field units.

The seminaries also will receive additional capital needs funds: Golden Gate, \$2,900,000; Midwestern, \$2,812,000; New Orleans, \$3,208,000; Southeastern, \$2,570,000; Southern, \$2,525,000, and Southwestern, \$4,100,000.

Volunteers needed for W. Pennsylvania

Forty volunteers from Mississippi are needed for a saturation witness effort prior to the Southern Baptist Convention which meets in Pittsburgh, June 12-16.

The volunteers would be in Western Pennsylvania, June 6-12, working out of the Monroeville Baptist Church, Monroeville. The 40 will be among approximately 1,600 in the area doing visitation during simultaneous revivals.

Volunteers would pay their own travel and living expenses. For details, contact the Brotherhood department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone 968-3800.

\$8 million for building

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—A \$7.5 million building to house seven entities of the Southern Baptist Convention was approved by the SBC Executive Committee in its February meeting and a plan for financing it will be recommended to messengers to the 1983 SBC in Pittsburgh.

The building, under study for more than two years, will house the Executive Committee, Christian Life Commission, Education Commission, Historical Commission, Stewardship Commission, Southern Baptist Foundation, and the Seminary External Education Division.

The building, if funded, will be constructed at Ninth and Commerce in downtown Nashville on property, valued at \$500,000, given to the entities by the Baptist Sunday School Board. The new building would be adjacent to the BSSB main building.

Messengers to the 1983 annual meeting will vote on funds to be provided through the 1984-85 capital needs budget for construction. Under the capital needs budget—also approved during the February meeting—\$8 million will be asked for construction and interest costs, primarily in 1984 and 1985, in order to save interest.

Total estimated construction and occupation cost is \$7,567,000, but interest would push costs to the \$8 million range, according to Rodney Landes, a layman from El Dorado, Ark., who chaired the long-range study committee which proposed the building, budget and method of financing.

Rush to speak at Hattiesburg MAC

Lebanon Association, the state stewardship office, and the SBC Stewardship Commission, are sponsoring a Materials Awareness Conference, Mar. 21 in Hattiesburg.

A Materials Awareness Conference is designed to introduce current stewardship themes and review programs and related programs.

This meeting will take place 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the President's Room of the William Carey College cafeteria.

Guest speaker will be John Rush, assistant director of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission.

After the conference, through Mar. 24, Julius Thompson of the Mississippi Baptist Stewardship department, will be in the association for private conferences in churches.

Youth ministry lab

FORT WORTH, Tex. — Registrations are being accepted for Southwestern Baptist Seminary's annual Youth Ministry Lab, Apr. 22-24.

Interested persons should write Youth Ministry Lab, Southwestern Seminary, P. O. Box 22328, Fort Worth, Texas 76122.

Landes said if the 1983 SBC approves the proposal, construction is expected to begin in October 1983, and takes 15 months for completion. A move-in date of Jan. 1, 1985, was projected.

The seven-story facility, if approved, would provide 170,000 square feet of floor space and an additional 59,000 square feet of parking space.

Under plans proposed by the Nashville architectural firm of Earl Swenson Associates, the building would be brick, cast-in-place concrete, and glass in dark anodized aluminum frames. The first three floors would provide public facilities for meetings, banquets, receptions and other common uses. The top four floors would be used for office and support space for each entity.

In the capital needs budget the Executive Committee, the five agencies, and the six SBC seminaries—which sponsor the external education

division—will receive a percentage of the funding requested.

Although the action did not mention the current building at 460 James Robertson Parkway, a "Document of Title" approved by the Executive Committee specified the facility would be "sold at a price and according to terms determined by the Executive Committee. Value is estimated at between \$1.5 million and \$3 million."

Proceeds from the sale would be used to pay the costs of moving, providing furnishings, making interest payments and retirement of any indebtedness on the new building, its furnishings and equipment. The Executive Committee also approved a "Document of Operation" which specifies that the Executive Committee will be the managing agent, but specifies each entity will be responsible for its own space.

Robison apologizes

By Jim Jones

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Evangelist James Robison has apologized to more-liberal Southern Baptists and others he has verbally attacked in the past, asking forgiveness for his actions.

"I'm not saying anyone else is wrong" in their criticisms, Robison said in an interview. "I'm saying I was wrong."

Robison sent a letter to Southern Baptist leaders last week and also met with Baylor University professors Feb. 16 in a concerted effort to say he is sorry for his past assaults.

The television evangelist, who became known for his attacks against liberal theology, homosexual rights, abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment and other favorite targets of the religious right, said he has not become "soft on sin."

But he has been increasingly convinced proclamations about sin are not the answer, and said his statements have come across as unnecessarily harsh. A return to morality in America is needed, he said, "but it will never happen unless Christians start loving each other."

Robison wrote in his three-page letter: "Dear Family In Christ: In seeking forgiveness, I stand convicted by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God. Although pure in motive throughout 21 years' ministry, I was, on occasion, unchristian in method and approach."

"That which I believed to be God-given conviction often came across as personal attack, prejudice, unkind, poorly thought out, defensive, abrasive, too general, casting many unnecessarily into the same pot and possibly damaging the very body of Jesus, rather than smashing the works of Satan."

"There is a deepening of conviction concerning my own sin of which I gladly repent and ask forgiveness from all. All sin, all doubt, unbelief and

God is not a cosmic bell-boy for whom we can press a button to get things.—Harry Emerson Fosdick.

vain speculation aimed at God's eternal (and I believe inerrant) word will be dealt with by God."

Robison, a member of First Church, Euless, Tex., where Southern Baptist Convention President James T. Draper Jr. is pastor, also asked forgiveness for his part in the current Southern Baptist power struggle between fundamentalist conservatives and moderates.

The evangelist delivered a blistering attack against liberalism prior to the 1979 Southern Baptist Convention national meeting in Houston that marked the beginning of the current dispute.

Expressing fear that the divisiveness in the Southern Baptist Convention is reaching dangerous proportions, Robison said, "Openness, diversity, discussion and differences are not only important, they are imperative for the body to be healthy."

Robison has provoked controversy when he has spoken out strongly against homosexuality as a sin, but he said the sin of homosexuals "is no greater than Christians' who fail to love one another."

Robison said the biggest change in his ministry is "that I've become more concerned about my own sin than the sins of others. I pray that there will never be another sinner who will feel that he is being judged by me; I hope he is judged by the Word of God."

(Jim Jones is religion editor of the Fort Worth Star Telegram.)

Abortion considered

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Senate subcommittee on the Constitution began the 98th Congress' consideration of the abortion issue with the first of two hearings designed to get a proposed constitutional amendment to the Senate floor this spring.

The panel is considering a proposal by its chairman, Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, designed to overturn the Supreme Court's landmark decision in Roe v. Wade by declaring that the Constitution does not secure a woman's right to an abortion.

Tithing and remembering

When God set his bow in the cloud as the sign of a covenant between him and the earth, he said to Noah, "I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh" (Gen. 9:15). His people are thankful that God remembers!

As Moses laid plans for settling in Canaan, he admonished the nation saying, "And you shall remember all the way which the Lord your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years . . ." (Deut. 8:2). It was important for the nation to remember!

God commanded Moses to tell Israel to place tassels on the corners of their garments to look at and remember . . . in order that you may remember to do all my commandments, and be holy to your God" (Num. 15:39-40). It was important for Israel to remember!

When David brought the ark inside the tent and they worshiped God, a sentence from his thanksgiving to God urged the people to "Remember God's wonderful deeds which he has done, his marvels and the judgments

from his mouth" (1 Chr. 16:12). King David thought it important to remember!

The Passover was, and the Lord's Supper is, a time to remember.

The weekly act of setting aside a tenth of one's income for God is also a way of remembering and acknowledging the owner and giver of all good and perfect gifts. It is he who gives power to get wealth. He sends the sunshine and rain. He lovingly provides for daily needs.

Only when one forgets all God's blessings, and his ultimate ownership of all things, can he feel comfortable in withholding a tithe from the work of the Lord.

God does not ask or expect people to do that which they cannot do. He does expect each one to be honest with him. People receive his benediction and blessings when they are obedient to him.

Tithing is a way of remembering who God is and who his people are.

(This series is prepared by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Stewardship office.)



Church musicians will head south

Twenty-four musicians from Mississippi will leave April 17 for performances in Uruguay and Argentina. Nineteen of them are ministers of music in Mississippi churches.

Perry Robinson, minister of music at First Church, Ellisville, is the coordinator for the trip. He also is a specialist with the Mississippi Baptist Church Music department. The group will return to Mississippi on April 30.

The singers hope to take a set of handbells on the trip to leave for the music ministry in Uruguay. Missionaries on the fields are making arrangements for singing engagements. The group will sing in cultural centers, churches, and auditoriums in the two South American countries.

The trip is a part of Mississippi's involvement in the partnership arrangement with the nations of the Rio de la Plata; Paraguay, Uruguay, and Argentina.

In addition to Robinson, those making the trip will be Randy Cuchens, Arlington Heights, Pascagoula; James Young, Liberty Church, Liberty; Farley Earl, First, Brandon; Gary Anglin, La Woods, Jackson; Bill Sellers, Annuity Board representative; Franklin Denham, Highland, Meridian; Dan C. Hall, director, Church Music department; Jim Keyser, First, Calhoun City; Truitt Roberts, First, Starkville; Louis Nicolosi, Petal-Harvey Church, Petal; Jim Watson, Temple Church, Hattiesburg; Earl Sylvest, Columbia; Don Nichols, First, Lucedale; Garner Keel, First, Brookhaven; Milfred Valentine, director of fine arts, Jones Junior College; George McFadin, First, Horn Lake; Lewis Oswalt, First, Pascagoula; Leon Bedsole, First, Biloxi; Allen Hill, First, Union; Tom Mercier, Prentiss Church, Prentiss; J. M. Wood, Broadmoor, Jackson; Bill Davis, Bay Springs Church, Bay Springs; and Major McDaniel, flourishing missionary from Natchez.

State pastors will preach in Argentina Apr. 7-18

Twelve Mississippi pastors, a layman, and Mississippi's evangelism director will be involved in a preaching mission to Argentina April 7 to 18.

Guy Henderson, director of the Evangelism department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will coordinate the mission that will concentrate on the churches of western Buenos Aires, a city of nine million.

The pastors are Roy Myers, Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale; Ed Gandy, First, Kosciusko; John Causey, First, Corinth; Johnny Walker, First, Lucedale; Harry Lucenay, Temple Church, Hattiesburg; William Wad-

dle, Emmanuel, Grenada; Taylor Wallace, Enterprise Church, Enterprise; Reed Dicken Jr., Ethel Church, Ethel; Louis F. Smith, First, Canton; Odean Puckett, First, Natchez; Jim Vance, Calvary, Starkville; and Bill Mitchell, Rawls Springs Church, Hattiesburg.

The layman is Gwin Moore, a member of First, Kosciusko.

The mission will be a part of Mississippi Baptist involvement in the partnership arrangement with the Baptists of the Rio de la Plata; Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina.

"God's Plan for Family": Gulfshore meeting theme

"God's Plan for the Family" is the theme of the 1983 Family Enrichment Conference to be held June 28-July 2 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

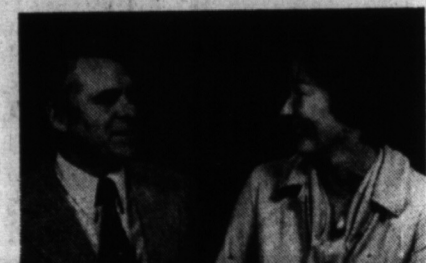
This conference is a week for all members of the family and will provide seminars and programming for all ages. Conference leaders for Family Week will be Mahan Siler and his wife, Janice. Siler is the director of the department of pastoral care of the North Carolina Baptist Hospitals. Janice Siler is a counselor in the department of pastoral care of North Carolina Baptist Hospital and is a certified clinical member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. Along with her husband she is certified through the Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment and has served as a leader and workshop teacher throughout the southeast. The Silers have co-authored the book *Communicating Christian Values to Children in the Home* which was released in 1982.

The Bible study leader for Family Week will be Charles Myers, pastor of Alta Woods Church, Jackson.

The musician for the week will be Gary Anglin, minister of music at Alta Woods.

The week will feature seminars led by specialists dealing with the areas of handling family stress, children and parent relationships, legal concerns of parents, growing mature children, and developing spiritual disciplines in the home.

Family Week is for all those who de-



sire to further enrich and enhance their family relationships, a time when parents and children can retreat together in a setting where the unified home is given strong emphasis. Reservations should be made directly to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly and are accepted by mail only. In-state requests will be handled immediately and non-Mississippi requests must be postmarked April 15 or later. All housing reservation requests must be accompanied by a deposit of \$50 per family.

To make reservation for Family Week, a reservation request form should be secured either from Gulfshore or the Christian Action Commission or from a local church.

For further information on reservations, contact Frank Simmons, manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571, phone (601) 452-7261. For program details contact Paul Jones, executive director, Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone (601) 968-3800. CAC sponsors the event.

Japanese students "get religion" as exams near

DAZAIFU, Japan (EP)—Thousands of Japanese students came to a shinto shrine in Dazaifu in search of divine guidance as the time nears for examinations that determine whether they will make it into a top high school or college. While few Japanese consider themselves religious, the act of supplication to the Guardian of Learning enshrined here gives students courage to face the grueling tests that are vital to their future and livelihood.

The shrine near Fukuoka on the southernmost main island of Kyushu annually attracts about 6 million persons of all ages. Two-thirds—mostly students and their parents—make the pilgrimage between January and March, the examination season at high schools and universities.

Oklahoma group opposes ordination of women

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)—The Capital Baptist Association, in its February executive board meeting, passed a resolution opposing the ordination of women as deacons, a reaction to a January vote in First Church, Oklahoma City, to permit such action.

The vote was 36-8 in favor of a resolution presented by the executive committee. The resolution contains three points:

"A. The doctrinal position of Southern Baptist churches of Capital Baptist Association does not agree with the position of ordaining women, and that,

"B. We do not know of any other churches affiliated with Capital Baptist Association practicing or contemplating the practice of ordaining women, and that,

"C. We ask the present constitutional committee of the association to make the above a matter of study and

Pastors, staffers to hear Stagg

The Pastor/Church Staff Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, July 4-6, will feature Frank Stagg as Bible study leader. Stagg, who lives at Bay St. Louis, is senior professor of New Testament interpretation at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Special music will be presented by Jerry and Carol Aultman. He is on the music faculty at New Orleans Seminary.

The conference will include workshop sessions for ministers, their wives, secretaries, and kindergarten-day care workers.

For reservations, write Frank Simmons, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss., 39571. Include \$25.00 per person deposit. For more program information, contact Leon Emery, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205, phone 968-3800.

Churches mark College Night

Baptist churches in Meridian, Tupelo, Jackson, and Biloxi will be the sites of special Baptist College Night programs in March and April as the Baptist colleges in Mississippi send representatives to talk with prospective students and their parents.

The first such program is set for Poplar Springs Drive Church in Meridian, Mar. 24 in the Family Life Center. This will be followed by programs in the Harrisburg Church Fellowship Hall in Tupelo, Mar. 28; First Church, Jackson, Family Life Center, Mar. 31; and First Church, Biloxi, Family Life Center, Apr. 18. Each of the programs will run from 7-9 p.m.

Represented at each of the meetings will be admissions personnel from Blue Mountain College, Clarke College, Mississippi College, and William Carey College. The schools are owned and operated by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Blue Mountain will not be represented at the Biloxi meeting.

The Baptist College Night programs are being sponsored by Baptist Education Advancement in Mississippi (BEAM) in cooperation with the Education Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Mrs. A. L. Hendrick dies in Jackson

Mrs. A. L. (Carolyn) Hendrick died March 2 at Miss. Baptist Medical Center, Jackson, after an extended illness. Funeral services were held March 4 from the chapel of Wright and Ferguson, with W. Douglas Hudgins officiating.

Mrs. Hendrick, native of Clinton, was a graduate of Mississippi Woman's College (now William Carey).

She was the daughter of a Baptist minister, the late J. L. Hughes. Her son, Harold Hughes Hendrick, is pastor of the Parker Road Baptist Church, Florissant, near St. Louis, Mo. Her sister, Gordy Hughes of Jackson, was formerly education director at First Baptist, Quitman, and 15th Avenue Baptist Church, Meridian.

Mrs. Hendrick in recent years had been active in volunteer mission work with the Hinds Madison Baptist Association, and was a member of the association's Missions Committee. She was a member of First Baptist Church, Jackson.

A former public school teacher and county supervisor of elementary schools, she had also been employed by the national PTA.

that we have a report from the committee by June 15."

Gerald Lunsford, pastor of First Church, Choctaw, and association moderator, said the action is aimed at getting "the matter before the association. We are not looking to kick anyone out, but we do feel the association must speak to this matter."

Lunsford added the study is not to determine the doctrinal rightness or wrongness of ordination of women, but is undertaken because the associational constitution does not speak to the matter.

The moderator said he personally disagrees with the ordination of women. "I don't think it is the scriptural position. I am conservative from one end to the other and believe ordination is for men. I even have a little problem with ordination of ministers of music or education; we have gotten much too free with the whole ordination process."

The resolution grew out of a meeting Lunsford called of 15 former moderators of the 127-church association for "advisory purposes."

While ordination of women as deacons is a big issue in Oklahoma, it is a matter of course in other areas. Southern Baptist churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia regularly ordain women as deacons.

One deacon at First Baptist Church of Raleigh, N. C., indicated the church "ordained its first woman deacon back in 1874."

Annuity Board to market by regions

By Ray Furr
Annuity Board officials ushered in the new year with a change in the board's approach to marketing.

According to President Darold H. Morgan, the board has adopted a regional approach in marketing its retirement and insurance programs. "In the beginning we will have five regions under the marketing division with the intention of moving to eight regions in the next few years," said Morgan. He said that each region is composed of various sizes of state conventions to insure that each state gets adequate service.

Morgan said that all of the marketing personnel will be based in Dallas with the exception of those 17 state conventions that have residing annuity secretaries.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has an annuity representative, Bill Sellers, who serves also as associate director of the Church Minister Relations and Annuity department.

Board officials decided to change their marketing philosophy after several years of study by three marketing consulting firms which suggested that the size of the board's clientele had far exceeded the marketing approach.

Morgan agreed saying "We serve more than 35,000 Southern Baptist churches, some 200 agencies and the six seminaries, which means that we spend most of our time servicing existing accounts with little time left for reaching new accounts." He noted that the regional concept will allow the board to multiply its "point of effective contact and responsibility by at least five-fold" by reassigning marketing personnel.

Morgan said a new structure was also needed to accommodate the legal demands of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), recent court decisions and other regulatory interpretations that "have complicated and extended the responsibilities of church pension boards."

(Furr is assistant director of public relations for the Annuity Board.)

Thursday, March 10, 1983

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

Baker, Norman will preach at Senior Adult Retreats

Bill Baker, pastor of First Church, Clinton, and Bob Norman, pastor of Northway Church, Dallas, Tex., will be the preachers for the Senior Adult Retreats at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, the weeks of May 16-20 and May 23-27. The Church Training department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, sponsors these sessions.

Bible study leaders will be J. A. Reynolds, professor of Bible at Mary Hardin-Baylor University, and Fred Wood, recently retired pastor of Eudora Church in Memphis.

Interest conferences will be held during each week. Subjects include: Volunteers for Missions, You and Your Health, Continuing Education, Leaders With Senior Adults, Personal Enrichment (review of Harold Dye's book, "The Touch of Friendship"), Serving Through My Church, and How To Use My Money Wisely.

The music for the first week will be directed by Truitt Roberts, minister of music at First Church, Starkville. Ken Miller, minister of music at First Church, Natchez, will direct music for the second week.

All housing reservation requests must be accompanied by a deposit of \$25 per person. Registration should be sent to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571.

CHURCH FURNISHINGS
Best prices on pew cushions
Chancel • Pews • Classroom
HERLYN SUPPLY COMPANY
P.O. Box 537, Brandon, MS 39042
Call Collect 601-825-1955

OLD BIBLES REBOUND
A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed. Write for illustrated price folder.
"Internationally known specialists"
NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO.
Box 305-C — Greenwood, Miss. 38930

LOOK! PASTOR!
Brief messages you will appreciate. Send long, stamped, self-addressed envelope to:
INSPIRATION BOOKS
Big Wells, Texas 76830

Record sponsors poster contest

In conjunction with Baptist Record Sunday, June 5, the Baptist Record is sponsoring a poster contest.

There will be three divisions: elementary, grades 1-6; junior high, grades 7-9; and senior high, grades 10-12.

Winners from each division will be published in the Baptist Record. And awards for first place in each division will be \$25; \$15 for 2nd place; and \$10 for 3rd place.

Posters may be done in color or black and white on regular size poster board or on unlined, white stationery size paper.

The subject is to be an illustration of the work of the Baptist Record, any phase of the work—reporting, printing, reading, or results of reading the Baptist Record.

Deadline for entry is Apr. 15. Entries will become the property of the Baptist Record. Posters will not be returned.

Judges will be members of the Baptist Record Advisory Committee.

WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF **FIBERGLASS** CHURCH PRODUCTS
• STEEPLES
• WALL CROSSES
• STAINED FIBERGLASS WINDOWS
• BAPTISTRIES
• BAPTISTRY HEATERS
Write for free color brochure
Fiberglass Specialties
A.C. 214-657-6522 Box 210 Henderson, Texas 75452

Winebarger
CHURCH FURNITURE & STAINED GLASS
LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA
Call Toll Free 800-446-0945
PEWS
CHAIRS CUSHIONS
CHANCEL FURNITURE
Area Representative RANDY CARTE
609 Lamar Avenue
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401
Telephone 601-264-1290
Fine Quality Since 1945

WBU

FACULTY POSITIONS

VOCATIONAL—TECHNICAL INSTRUCTORS

in

Electronics Technology — Building Trades — Welding

— Auto Mechanics — and —

VOCATIONAL COUNSELOR

Qualifications and Experience: Bachelor's degree in technical field and/or experience in the field. Extensive experience may be used in lieu of formal degree-type training as part of the total qualifications for the position. Counselor should have graduate degree and certification as counselor. He/She should have at least three years experience in work other than teaching or counseling.

Closing Date for Applications: April 15, 1983.

Appointment Date: Not later than September, 1983.

Salary and Rank: Competitive, dependent on qualifications and experience.

How to Apply: Letters of application, transcripts and confidential papers should be directed to:

Dr. David Knight, Dean
College of Applied Arts & Sciences
Wayland Baptist University
708 Yonkers Street
Plainview, Texas 79072-6998
Phone: (806) 293-3605 or (806) 296-5521

An application or nomination should be in writing to be considered. It should contain a resume of personal, educational, denominational, and professional background and experience; evidences of participation in organizations and community involvement; record of both church and professional growth, activity, and leadership roles; a list of reference sources; and reason for applying for this position.

Wayland Baptist University offers curricula in liberal arts, sciences, vocational-technical education and selected professional and graduate studies. It is related to the Southern Baptist Convention and gives a distinctive Christian emphasis to all programs and activities. It is located on the High Plains, south of Amarillo and north of Lubbock.

Wayland Baptist University

Plainview, Texas 79072-6998

Medicare Supplement

Policy Form MC-78
Helps pay what Medicare doesn't pay
Benefits start from first day (Optional) — Guaranteed renewable
Pays in addition to Medicare or any insurance you may have

Benefits For:

Hospital entrance fees	Blood transfusions
Doctors fees	Ambulance
Private room expense	Nursing Home
Registered nurse	Extended stay

Also available

- Hospital surgical Form 801 and major medical Form 802
- Guaranteed issue life — No health questions

For full information fill out coupon and mail to:

OLD SOUTHERN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
P. O. Drawer 2157 703 Hi-Way 80 West
Clinton, MS 39056
(601) 924-1119

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

Underwritten by Old Southern Life Insurance Co., Montgomery, Ala.

Intensive care

Dedicated to strengthening families
Directed by a team of family life specialists

Only those with experience can understand?

You have been answering all sorts of questions. I am a single person, a formerly married. I think only singles should be used in conferences or counseling with singles and especially formerly marrieds. How can anyone who has not experienced the anger, hurt, and rejection some of us have had really know anything about what we go through? Why should we ask someone like you for advice anyway?

Dear Disgusted: To understand and even empathize with an alcoholic, one does not have to be a problem drinker. To do open heart surgery, one does not have to have experienced four by-passes. To understand abnormal psychology one does not have to be abnormal. To understand one who is suicidal, one does not have to desire to stop the world and get off. To understand problems of parenting, one really does not have to be a parent. To understand loneliness, grief, anger, and rejection, one does not have to be a formerly married or a single who is undergoing such trauma.

There is a danger of looking through only one pair of eyes or seeing a situation only on the basis of your own experience. A perceptive, trained, and experienced counselor or physician sees through many pairs of eyes and feels with many broken and hurting people. Otherwise, there is a danger of stereotyping and insisting all must have the "same experience I had" and handle it in the same way, provided it was successfully handled. If you learn only from your own experience or from that of your peer group, your vision and experience will be very limited.

To be sure, we usually can find much support and some help from those who are or have been fellow strugglers with us. Dr. John Claypool, through sharing his grief and the way he coped with it following his daughter's death, has helped literally thousands of people with his sermons and his published work, *Tracks of a Fellow Struggler*.

In brief, statements such as in *Intensive Care*, do tend to be simplistic and sometimes sound dogmatic. Too, we do not often give proof-text scriptures, but be assured we answer from a Christian attitude, a Bible-based perspective, and years of counseling experience, and that the answer is bathed in prayer that not only the inquirer but other readers will be helped.

What's your question? Maybe it is the one that someone else needs answered, too.

Address inquiries to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

CLASSIFIED

RATE: 30¢ per word 30 minimum. Cash with order. No return. No advertising. Includes name, address, zip code, and phone number in word count. No initials.

OUTSTANDING GROUP PACKAGE! Stay at KELLER'S COUNTRY DORM RESORT, Rt. 1, Eureka Springs, Ark., and see the GREAT PASSION PLAY (April 26 thru October) for only \$18 each, including tickets, lodging and meals! Call 501/253-8418.

PEWS FOR SALE—length 10 ft. to 20 ft.; wood back and seat with lay-in reversible cushions; light oak finish; contemporary styled pew ends; good condition; reasonably priced. Contact Bowmar Avenue Baptist Church, Vicksburg, MS (601) 636-2596.

FOR SALE: Used CHURCH FURNITURE. 25 solid oak pews/pads; 2 pulpit pew chairs; pulpit and communion table—\$3,500.00. Phone (601) 765-4363.

Editorials

by don mcgregor

Deadline on pornography

As these lines are being written, it is not known what fate will have fallen on this year's pornography bill, H 345. As the lines are being read, some sort of fate will have been determined.

As noted in the Baptist Record of Feb. 24, the House passed its own version of the bill by a 100 percent vote and sent it to the Senate. The Senate had let its bill die in committee, and the explanation was that the Senate would wait for the House bill and thus keep the issue less complicated.

When the House bill arrived in the Senate Judiciary Committee, however, it was altered considerably; and so the issue became complicated anyway. But the Senate Judiciary Committee passed the bill out of committee and sent it on to the Senate floor. Today, March 10, is the deadline for action by the Senate on that bill. If the

Senate fails to act on that bill today or defeats it, the bill is dead. If the Senate passes the bill, it goes to a conference committee; and a new deadline of March 24 is established.

Among the changes the Senate Judiciary Committee suggested to the full Senate was a longer list of those who would not be affected, including cable television companies. Another change was putting stiffer penalties into the bill.

For some time, Mississippi Baptists have been interested in some sort of pornography bill being passed by the Legislature. Four or five years ago the Mississippi Baptist Convention adopted a resolution calling on the Legislature to pass such legislation. As it was with the blood alcohol content issue, it takes a few years to accomplish the desired purposes. It was hoped that this would be the year for

pornography legislation. We will have to wait, however, and see what the Senate does today before we can know whether there is any chance at all.

If the Senate passes a pornography bill today, we will need to be in touch with our legislators in support of pornography legislation. The Baptist Record, of course, will endeavor to keep readers informed. Of course, it is possible, though not at all likely, that the Senate will brush aside the suggestion of its Judiciary Committee and adopt the House-passed bill. If that were to happen, only the governor's signature would be needed for it to become law. If the Senate adopts any other version of the bill, however, a conference would be needed to seek to come up with a bill that both houses could accept.

At this moment, the attitude must be to wait and see.

Another bill that will find its fate today is H. 602, which has to do with hunting and fishing on Sunday. At this point it is illegal to hunt or fish on Sunday. The new bill would make it illegal to hunt within a quarter-mile of a church building on Sunday when worship services are being held in the building. There is nothing said about fishing. So the conditions would be completely altered from hunting and fishing being illegal on Sunday to both being legal except for hunting within a quarter mile of a church building during service time.

If this bill passes the Senate today, the governor's signature would make it law. If it is defeated or not acted upon, it is dead.

Today is a critical day in the matter of legislation in Mississippi and holds a great deal of interest for Baptists of our state.

Tops in 1982 total giving to Cooperative Program

Church Name	Association	Cooperative Program Gifts	Per Capita Giving
FBC Jackson	Hinds Madison	268,255.00	65.14
Broadmoor	Hinds Madison	251,675.43	87.69
FBC Columbus	Lowndes	193,873.27	126.13
FBC Yazoo City	Yazoo	143,100.60	144.96
FBC Brandon	Rankin	127,155.87	105.34
FBC Grenada	Grenada	121,522.54	101.01
Alta Woods	Hinds Madison	118,400.17	67.81
FBC Vicksburg	Warren	113,359.40	87.26
Prentiss	Jeff Davis	106,994.35	203.41
FBC Columbia	Marion	106,226.94	83.84
Calvary, Tupelo	Lee	98,904.82	86.45
FBC Meridian	Lauderdale	95,271.12	66.90
Fairview	Lowndes	94,858.33	75.64
FBC, Gulfport	Gulf Coast	92,315.92	50.22
FBC Crystal Springs	Copiah	85,065.16	84.64
Morrison Heights	Hinds Madison	84,080.51	47.02
FBC Greenville	Washington	83,097.00	46.47
FBC McComb	Pike	80,513.08	72.01
Colonial Heights	Hinds Madison	79,962.40	54.65
Temple Hattiesburg	Lebanon	75,364.53	50.04
Woodlawn	Warren	74,626.52	54.07
FBC Laurel	Jones	73,837.45	65.92
FBC Leland	Washington	73,567.77	129.78
FBC Tupelo	Lee	71,333.40	65.08
FBC Cleveland	Bolivar	70,799.68	85.71
FBC Amory	Monroe	69,580.18	76.71
FBC Brookhaven	Lincoln	69,254.89	35.42
FBC Winona	Montgomery	66,272.05	103.06
FBC Pontotoc	Pontotoc	66,223.87	66.09
Parkway	Hinds Madison	63,959.74	22.33
FBC Corinth	Alcorn	63,912.57	98.17
FBC Clinton	Hinds Madison	61,657.64	40.32
Oak Forest	Hinds Madison	61,012.61	46.04
Rawls Springs	Lebanon	60,603.19	94.98
FBC Louisville	Winston	58,007.02	64.88
FBC Wiggins	Gulf Coast	57,939.41	91.38
Harrisburg	Lee	57,556.00	32.57
FBC Starkville	Oktibbeha	56,916.59	26.24
FBC Biloxi	Gulf Coast	56,282.49	42.12
FBC Newton	Newton	55,958.33	80.16
Poplar Springs Drive	Lauderdale	55,800.00	48.31
Daniel Memorial	Hinds Madison	53,144.78	34.89
FBC, Hattiesburg	Lebanon	52,568.57	41.39
Van Winkle	Hinds Madison	52,003.37	40.03
Main St	Lebanon	50,970.91	33.16
Parkway	Adams	50,897.42	40.68
FBC New Albany	Union Co	50,855.62	54.33
FBC Picayune	Pearl River	50,811.32	52.49
FBC Kosciusko	Attala	49,592.21	48.81
FBC Pascagoula	Jackson	49,506.99	40.47

Pari-mutuel gambling dies in committee

House Bill 717 is dead.

Throughout each legislative session this publication is quick to call on legislators to be counted on issues that affect public morality. We will continue to do this as long as there is energy left within us, for we feel this is a part of life in Mississippi; and we feel that laws should reflect a moral stance.

By the same token, when legislators have taken such a stand, we feel they should be commended. We realize that we may miss some bills both in suggesting positive action and in expressing appreciation when such ac-

tion is forthcoming. But we must give credit where it is due when it is possible for us to do so.

Such is the case with House Bill 717, the bill which would have allowed pari-mutuel gambling in Jackson County; and eventually it could have spread to any county in the state. The House Ways and Means Committee let that bill die in committee this year.

We want to commend that committee heartily. We have no idea how the committee members voted, if there was a vote. It may have been apparent that there would be no need to take a

vote. But the bill is dead.

While we don't know how committee members felt individually, the writer did correspond with each member of the committee. I received replies back from several indicating a position in opposition to HB 717. Those who replied in such fashion included John Hampton Stennis of Jackson, Dick Hall of Jackson, and Hillman Terome Frazier of Jackson.

Other members of the committee are H. L. Merideth, Joseph L. Blount, W. E. Andrews III, Fred L. Banks, Thomas L. Brooks, Harris L. Bryan, T.

H. Campbell III, J. P. Compretta, Dennis Dollar, Ralph Doxey, Robert L. Everett, Timothy A. Ford, Jerry M. Gilbreath, W. L. Grist, Tommy A. Horne, R. G. Huggins, Edward G. Jackson, Hermit A. Jones, Hubert S. McMillan, Hannon A. Miller, James D. Nunnally, Will Green Poindexter, Stanley P. Presley, Dorlos Robinson, Glynn F. Shumake, James C. Simpson, Wade O. Smith, W. Terrell Stubbs, Thomas H. Walman, and Charles V. Williams.

This group is due the gratitude of all of Mississippi.

Guest opinion . . .

Prophet of God or hired hand?

By Allen O. Webb

More than once I have heard men speak of their pastor and say "we hired him" at a certain time.

Needless to say, many pastors fit into the category of the hired hand. They spend their time just trying to please the people, in their messages and to do the things that their employers expect. They preach against sins the people don't commit and will commend the people in their lethargy.

This type of minister seldom has many problems, because he fills the role of obedient employee and never speaks criticism of his employers. When he goes to another place to serve, the people say "Everybody

loved him. He didn't have an enemy in the world."

This is not the picture of the prophet of God. The Bible does not present a single prophet who did not have enemies. He is God's forthteller in a troubled world. He is a man with a divine mission. He will make people conscious of their sins and the need for a closer walk with God. After the vile sins of King David, Nathan served as God's prophet when he pointed a finger at the king and said, "Thou art the man." This confrontation brought about the confession and repentance of David.

Many potential prophets lose their influence in calling for righteousness by becoming involved in insignificant

squabbles that have little or no relationship to the promotion of the kingdom of God.

One minister alienated many of his flock by the position he took on whether or not flowers should be put on the piano. Another nullified his influence by his attitude toward the color of paint to be used in remodeling a building. Still another minister alienated the majority of his congregation when he sought to force them to use a different type of music in the church. A gradual approach could have accomplished his purpose in a reasonable length of time.

The real prophet of God must realize that his responsibility is not in the realm of forcing a change in the habits

and patterns of daily living but rather in holding up the Lord Jesus and his principles to meet the needs of a confused world.

Sometimes the prophet of God will be even as a roaring lion as he speaks in defiance of sin. At other times he will speak even as a soft breeze in the evening as his words paint on the canvas of heaven the glories of God and the beauty of the life that is dedicated to his will.

One of the greatest needs of this hour is a greater number of prophets of God presenting to the people "A word from the Lord."

Allen O. Webb is director of missions for Jackson County Baptist Association.

Letters to the Editor

Mississippians in Mexico

Editor:

Until reappointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 1981 to teach in the Mexican Baptist Theological Seminary, Mexico City, it was my privilege to serve as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Ellisville, Mississippi.

As a pastor and missionary, it has been my job to be doubly blessed by the mission spirit of Mississippi Baptists. First, it was always an inspiration to see Baptists pray for missionaries unknown to them and to give support to work never seen. That is a beautiful blend of love for lost people, confidence in missionary personnel, and obedience to God. Second, because Baptists are faithful, missionaries can give a full day's work with complete confidence of a strong support back home. Yes, it is a blessing to give and to receive.

The above serves as a background for an expression of gratitude to the men and members of Temple Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, for their personal involvement in missions. Dr. Harry Lucenay, pastor, and 12 members recently spent a week in mission-

nary personnel support work in Mexico City. While going out into the jungle or working on a church building might be more exciting, making it possible for missionary families to have some needed conveniences is pretty important also.

The work crew from Temple Baptist Church knew their job assignment from the very beginning. They came in the true spirit of Mississippi men on mission in Mexico and did their jobs.

Their presence in our homes, in churches, in restaurants, and in the streets sight-seeing raised the question: Who are these happy men and why are they here? Neighbors still speak of the impact made by their unselfish and dedicated approach to sharing their faith. Temple Baptist Church, the city of Hattiesburg, and Mississippi can be proud of these men. We certainly are here.

The four missionary families with whom they stayed and for whom they worked will enjoy the improvements made in the houses for a long time to come. We have tried to cross the bridge of visible and communicated love laid down by these men.

May the Lord continue to use Mississippi Baptists and churches like Temple Baptist Church in the establishing of his Kingdom in the hearts of men all around the world.

Mack P. Jones
Apartado 48
Ciudad Satellite, Edo. de Mexico
53100 - Mexico

Southern Baptist Scouts

Editor:

February 1983 signals the beginning of a year-long emphasis on Baptists in Scouting. This emphasis was adopted by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America to express appreciation for past and current contributions to youth ministry by Baptists in Scouting.

Nationwide, over 6,100 units are chartered to Baptist churches, the majority of these churches being affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. In Mississippi alone, over 140 Scout units are currently owned by Southern Baptist churches, and other Baptist leaders are considering the

use of our Scouting resource.

As Chief Scout Executive, I want to assure you of my personal commitment, and that of our National Council, to retain belief in God as an underlying principle of Scouting. Adherence to this principle and to the other cornerstones of Scouting assure complete compatibility with your objectives.

I would also like to applaud Baptists for their fine efforts in designing and administering the Baptist God and Country program. Of the thousands of recipients who have participated in this pastor-led training, over one thousand youth have indicated that they became Christians as a result of their experience. Scores of other young men have sensed a calling to ministerial vocations.

It is estimated that 300,000 of our volunteer Scouters are Baptist. They stand ready to serve the needs of your Convention's Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Explorer units. We are pleased to highlight Baptist outreach to youth.

J. L. Tarr
Chief Scout Executive
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, Texas 75062

Help is needed

Editor:

Will you please publish the following:

The Central Park Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama, is seeking information concerning the early church (1910-1930) and its leaders. Will you please share originals or photocopies of clippings, pictures, brochures, etc., to be used in compiling a church history. Please contact church office, 785-5121 or write 1900 43rd Street, West, Birmingham, AL 35208. We hope there will be some readers of the Baptist Record who can help us.

Contact Person:
Mrs. Lois Maxwell, Librarian
925-4710

The spirit of God in man

Editor:

I wish to share with you the way I feel about the tragedy in the church today.

Jesus said except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of

the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:20).

Righteousness is the fruit of the kingdom and is the proof of the kingdom. The Pharisees were advocates of ceremonial righteousness. The outward, the sacramental, were all-important.

In hell the lowest place will be occupied by hypocrites who fleeced pious people under the guise of Christianity.

Now, how about the gifts of the spirit? Are they now recognized and used as God intended? Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if that outpouring of the Spirit of God which came to the Moravians centuries ago would come upon us again?

How about sympathy and compassion? Do we love and pray for those who have said something or hurt our feelings? Do we quit and go to another church? Or do we take it to the one who has said or done something? Not without praying for God to lead us.

Do we pray for that brother or sister like we should? Or do we not speak to them when we see them?

Is this why our Lord gave his life, that we be this way? Is this the way the Holy Spirit of God works?

Today I say we ought to be a company of believers drawn together to see and hear and feel God appearing in man. Can we not use the gifts which God has given to us to use as a body of Christ?

We must all show more life and joy when we are with another.

Lucille Paulk
Waynesboro

Miracle in Montevideo

Dear Editor:

Dr. John L. McNair, SBC missionary from Mississippi who is expecting to be named to a nominal teaching position, was recently invited by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in Montevideo, Uruguay to assume the role of associate professor of neuroanatomy. Dr. McNair's position is officially recognized by the administration of the faculty of medicine in Uruguay. He has been asked to develop a program of brain research which includes establishing a fully

Faces And Places

It's March again

It's March again, and birthday month for Mama and me. She was 75 on March 4. My sister, Betty, and I enriched South Central Bell considerably while planning a surprise party.

Betty and her daughter, Luann, promised to bring the cake, and her other daughter, Karen, to make the punch. Aunt Lura Earl offered to toast pecans. She and a neighbor, "Miss Red" Henderson, would get out the invitations. I was to buy flowers and napkins. W. D. and I arranged a couple of days vacation. On March 3, he and I waited in Jackson until 9:30 a.m. for Gayfer's to open, so I could buy mints. They melted before we got to Lafayette, Ala., I bought more from a grocer; they were hard and tasteless. Otherwise, all went well, except that by the Saturday afternoon party, the sunshine had given away to a full-scale wind and rainstorm. Nevertheless, quite a bunch arrived to sing happy birthday. Mama's grandson, Tom, called her from Baton Rouge and her sister, Maysey, drove over from Monticello, Ga.

Born in 1908, Mama has been around a good percentage of this century. The first car she remembers seeing was in 1911, when their mail man got a small one. Every day she and her sisters would run to the window to see the

equipped laboratory. His responsibility will also include directing the research activities of a group of five physicians who will make up a brain research team. This new laboratory that Dr. McNair is developing will be the first of its kind in South America to use and teach a newly developed technique of brain research. The position of Dr. McNair in the faculty of medicine can have far reaching results and strengthen our Baptist witness to a segment of society that before has had very little evangelical witness.

Dr. McNair said, "The combination of responsibilities of teaching medical students and directing the brain research activities of the professors gives me a greater opportunity to witness to both students and professors alike. There is no doubt in my mind that only the Lord could have opened these doors. My prayer request is that God would give me the strength and courage to meet the challenges of this great responsibility that has been entrusted to me, and that my life might be an effective witness in my daily walk with both students and professors."

Janie Benfield
Press Rep., Uruguay

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words, and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record.

strange red contraption. They traveled by buggy, their feet kept warm in winter by bricks Grandma had heated.

Mama was born Johnnie Lela, for her father, Johnnie Allen. Grandma Lemmah's middle name was "work." I think, and she always had chores lined up for her six daughters and one son, in the house and in her flower garden of hyacinths, lilacs, peonies, violets, and buttercups. But Mama remembers that they all had time to ramble in the woods, making playhouse "walls" of limbs and leaves, hunting chestnuts and hall berries, and chewing wads of gum from the sweetgum tree.

Aunt Lois and Uncle Albert got a car in 1912, so Mama ran away from High Point School to visit them. Next day the teacher threatened a paddling, but Mama's brother, Zeddie, rushed in and said, "You'd better not whip my sister!" World War I was on soon and the family planned (not seriously?) to dig a cave to hide Zeddie, to keep him out of the army. The girls even scheduled who would deliver which meals to him! But the war ended, Zeddie got married, and his wife nursed all the family through the flu epidemic.

The Allens had a special pew at County Line Baptist Church near Dudleyville, the hometown of Senator Claude Pepper. Mama joined the church there during a revival in 1920 and has been a member of that church ever since. She's been WMU president, taught children in Sunbeams and Sunday School and VBS, and lately has been teaching the adult women in Sunday School.

Around 1924 romance came her way in a Model A Ford, when Emmett Washburn, a school teacher, would stop to take her and a couple of sisters home from Ridge Grove School in the afternoons. Mama managed to sit by the driver. Pretty soon they started going to syrup candy pulling parties, raiding watermelon patches, and walking along the lake. On Oct. 10, 1925, they got married. Their first baby, Charles, died at age 3 weeks. I was born in 1929, and Betty in 1931.

During the 30s Depression, Daddy plowed cotton fields in the hot Alabama sun. With Mama's economy and good management, her skill in sewing, and his knack for building and fixing, Betty and I never knew we were poor. Our house was rich in love.

In 1940, another world war on the horizon, they bought a farm. Daddy got a cotton mill job at \$35 a week and Mama learned to milk. In 1948, a tornado blew the barn away; the insurance, plus the cows, finished paying for the land. In the 50s, after they'd seen their daughters both through college, they got us married off and welcomed three grandchildren. The riot-torn 60s were a peaceful and happy and prosperous time for them. In 1971, Daddy died and the next year Mama got her driving license. We have admired her resourcefulness and courage and independence in the years of living alone. We hope you had a happy 75th birthday, Mama! We love you!

The Baptist Record

(ISSN-0005-5778)

515 Mississippi Street

Box 530

Jackson, Miss. 39206

Don McGregor

Associate Editor

Tim Nicholas

Editorial Associate

Anne McWilliams

Associate

Official Journal of

The Mississippi Baptist Convention

James Yates

President

Earl Kelly

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Baptist Building

Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39206

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Marcus

Finch, Meridian, chairman; Odie Henderson,

Cleveland; Tom Nelson, Jackson; vice-chairman,

James Jackson, Columbia; Robert H. Jackson,

Brandon; Don Thompson, Acharman; ex-officio,

Ernest Rogers, secretary.

Subscriptions: \$7.35 a year payable in advance.

Published weekly except week of July 4 and

Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Miss.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to

Baptist Record Association, a member of the

Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Physician paid in different . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Tarpley puts his life where his mouth is. The Tennessee finished second in his medical school class at Nashville's Vanderbilt University and went on to internship and surgical residency at prestigious Johns Hopkins, followed by several years of cancer research.

Possible fame and certain fortune awaited Tarpley in a U.S. medical career. But while teaching a teen-age Sunday School class and quizzing his students on what they really wanted out of life, he began asking himself the same question. Then he spotted a short article in the back of a medical journal.

"The article was by an American doctor serving at a hospital in Nigeria," said Tarpley. "It went something like, 'My wife and child are sick. It looks like we're going to have to return to the U.S. These people are going to be left without medical care. How about some of you bleeding-heart liberals who go marching in the streets on Saturday and go to your country clubs on Sunday coming to Nigeria?'"

Tarpley still carries the clipping in his wallet. It was no "lightning bolt from the sky," he said, but it changed his life. In 1977 the surgeon and his wife, Maggie, were appointed missionaries to Nigeria by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

At the 150-bed hospital in Ogbomoso, Tarpley and his Nigeria and missionary colleagues battle chronic water shortages, frustrating understaffing, inadequate equipment, sheer exhaustion. He offers no complaints.

"I don't have to worry about a lot of committees," he

said. "I don't have to worry about malpractice suits. I don't have to commute to three different hospitals; I live right on the hospital grounds. I walk to work every day and don't have to get in a car at all. I have good weather, good sunshine, good fruits and vegetables and lots of clean air." He also spends a lot of time with his wife and three children.

Nor does he view himself as a latter-day Albert Schweitzer bringing healing to Africa. A battalion of medical missionaries couldn't meet the staggering health care problems of the continent, he insisted. The hospital at Ogbomoso, administered by Nigerian Baptists, aims to train Nigerian doctors to solve Nigerian problems.

Tarpley's most fulfilling work comes in teaching the young Nigerian "housemen" (interns and residents) who come to the hospital to perfect their healing art. He trained 27 during his first three years at Ogbomoso.

And what of the financial rewards he will never realize? "I get paid in different currency," he replied. "I'm probably paid better than most of my compatriots in the U.S. My currency is the patients and the parents of my pediatric patients who are so grateful. My currency is seeing a houseman who at the beginning of the year doesn't know how to take care of patients learn how by the end of the year and turn around and teach the younger guys coming after him."

Tarpley remembers a spontaneous prayer service he once had with colleagues and family members after a critically ill Nigerian child recovered. "That's a year's pay right there."

(Bridges writes for the Foreign Mission Board.)

capsules

Less silence

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. (EP)—A federal judge has ruled unconstitutional a mandatory minute of silence observed by Las Cruces public school students at the start of each school day.

The plaintiff, father of a student, contended that by instructing students to use the minute of contemplation, meditation or prayer, it was advancing religious doctrine within public schools.

And less silence

NEWARK, N. J. (EP)—New Jersey's attorney general says he won't enforce a law requiring a daily minute of silence in public schools that was passed by the legislature over Gov. Thomas Kean's veto.

In vetoing the bill, Kean cited a recent ruling by a federal judge in Tennessee striking down a similar law in that state.

School officials had announced each day that the purpose of the moment of silence was an opportunity for prayer.

Liberty's biology

LYNCHBURG, Va. (EP)—Overriding objections of its advisory committee, the Virginia State Board of Education has provisionally approved for one year the biology program at Jerry Falwell's Liberty Baptist College. State certification qualifies biology graduates of Falwell's school in Lynchburg, Va., to be hired as teachers in Virginia and 35 other states despite inclusion of "creation-science" in the college curriculum.

Liberty Baptist President A. Pierre Guillermin in applying for certification, acknowledged that creationism is taught, but that standard evolution theory was given "equal hearing," and that the school met state requirements to teach the standard science courses.

Hooper Dilday dies

R. Hooper Dilday Sr., 72, Baptist religious educator and denominational leader, died Feb. 20 in Fort Worth after a long illness.

He was director of the church service division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas for 18 years and retired in 1971 after a stroke.

He is survived by his wife, Opal Spillers Dilday of Fort Worth, three sons; Russell H. Dilday Jr., president of Southwestern Seminary; Donald G. Dilday of Navasota, Texas; James E. Dilday of Houston and daughter, Ann Dilday Young of Benton, La., and nine grandchildren.

Memorials may be given to the Hooper Dilday Memorial Fund at Southwestern Seminary.

Presbyterians deciding

NEW YORK (EP)—The northern and southern Presbyterian churches are voting this month on whether to finally end the Civil War. The church split 122 years ago—at the beginning of the war between the States—over the issue of slavery. Presbyterians are now deciding if they should reunite.

If the merger is approved, the USA's 3.2 million Presbyterians would become one flock called the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

MC gets \$1,000 music grant

The Mississippi College department of music has received a \$1,000 grant from the Presser Foundation of Bryn Mawr, Pa., to update its music library. The grant will be used to replace outdated sound recordings and to purchase additional recordings for the music archives, which are housed in the Media Center of the Leland Speed Library.

Embezzling checked

ATLANTA (BP)—A possible forgery/embezzlement involving personnel payroll at Georgia Baptist Medical Center has been uncovered. Grand jury indictments are expected soon.

Administrator Robert L. Zuwald said at least \$100,000 was involved in a payroll padding scheme. The hospital is bonded and will be reimbursed for all losses when the case is fully investigated and settled. Zuwald said he was not free to discuss details of the case while it is under investigation.

"Longest" Hour

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)—In 1943, WJAX first broadcast "Baptist Hour," produced by the fledgling Radio Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Forty years later, WJAX-AM has now carried "Baptist Hour" longer than any other radio station in America, making it one of the longest-running syndicated programs in radio history.

To mark the fortieth anniversary of that first broadcast March 21, "Baptist Hour" will air a special program from WJAX studios recorded Jan. 18 to be heard on the 396 radio stations carrying the 30-minute program.

"Baptist Hour," itself only two years old in 1943, was the flagship program of the early radio ministry of Southern Baptists, WJAX, oldest of three radio stations in Jacksonville at that time, was one of about 20 stations in the country to carry the program in those early days. But it is the only station that has continued service uninterrupted through the years.

Youth Night has music openings

(Continued from page 1)

available by ordering through: Greg Skipper, Music Merchandising Specialist, Book Store Division, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234. It can be charged to the church's Baptist Book Store account number. Titles ordered in quantities of 10 or more will receive the regular discount. The titles are: TUM 139, "Beginning Here and Now"; Red-Hawthorne, SATB, Tribune; CM 7880, "Go Ye Into All the World"; Butler, SATB, C. Fischer; A 606, "Great Is the Lord"; Angel, SATB, Shawnee. One other song in the choir's repertoire will be "Share Your Love," a commissioned anthem by Lewis Oswald, minister of music at First Church, Pascagoula. Copies of this song will be available through Greg Skipper or directly through the publishing company, Doxology.

For those attending Blue Mountain and Gulfshore Youth Music Conferences, the Youth Night music will be included in the packets purchased at the conferences.

The Youth Night Band, under the direction of Lee Poquette, assistant minister of music at First Church, Jackson, will be composed of the bands at the Gulfshore Youth Music Conferences. The repertoire will be learned during those conferences July 11-15 and July 15-19.

The Honors Youth Handbell Choir, under the direction of Perry Robinson, minister of music at First Church, Jacksonville, will also be featured in the service. Members of this choir will be selected by the Handbell Festival Committee on recommendation of their ministers of music.

Winners of the State Youth Keyboard and Vocal Festivals will also be featured during the worship experience. The State Keyboard Festival was held Feb. 26 at Mississippi College in Clinton. The State Vocal Festival will take place July 16, at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly.

For details concerning Youth Night music opportunities, contact Susan Clark, Church Music department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Trace Ridge will celebrate 5th year

Trace Ridge Church, Ridgeland, will celebrate its 5th anniversary March 13, with an old-fashioned dinner on the grounds and singing in the afternoon. Jerry Odom, pastor, will preach with Frank Stiedle from Canton leading the singing. No services will be held Sunday night.

Hillcrest to present Living Cross

Hillcrest Baptist Church, Jackson, will present its first annual Living Cross on Sunday, March 27 at 5 and 7 p.m. in the sanctuary of the church. The cross holds more than 70 singers who will perform selected works from "The Day He Wore My Crown" and "Then Came Sunday." The program features members of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra accompanying the choir.

Mickey Henderson, minister of music, said performances will be free but to ensure seating for the 5 p.m. program, tickets are available from the church by calling (601) 372-0132. Maurice Clayton is pastor.

"Confidence man" working

The "confidence man" reported in the Baptist Record Feb. 17 as telling false stories to churches concerning personal crises now has a job.

The man went to a Jackson church, asking for a job and the church put him to work, painting in the church and doing maintenance. Confronted later in the week with the Baptist Record story, the man said he'd found it easier to tell a lie and get money and "get on down the road."

Members got the man, his wife, and baby out of a run-down motel and into a trailer.

The church staffer told the Baptist Record the man was doing an honest day's work and was in his fourth week of employment.

Percy Cooper, minister, dies

Percy M. Cooper, 73, died March 21 in Madison General Hospital at Canton. Funeral services were held March 5 at Springfield Baptist Church, Scott County.

Cooper was a native of Springfield community. He had lived in Carthage for the last 20 years. He was a member of the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Walnut Grove, where he had served as pastor. He helped to organize the Southside Baptist Church in Jackson.

His other pastorates included Rocky Creek Baptist Church, George County; Winbourne Avenue Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La.; Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson; First Baptist, Raleigh; and Trinity, Carthage.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ardue Cooper, and daughter, Mary Ann Cooper, both of Carthage; two brothers; and one sister.

Tapes available

Tapes of talks at the Evangelism Bible Conference in Starkville are available from Wayne Long Taping Service. Each tape is \$3.50. For an order form write Long at Box 145, Lambert, Miss., 38643.

Coaches meeting will be March 15

The Pal Jones Sports Complex Softball League is planning to hold a coaches meeting March 15, at 6:30 p.m. for interested teams. It will be at the volunteer fire station by Byram, on Davis Road next to the complex. For more information call Eddie Brewer at 371-1112 or 373-2695 after 5 p.m.

Thursday, March 10, 1983

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Names In The News

Vance Havner, author and revivalist, will be the leader for a Christian Growth Conference at First Church, Jackson, Mar. 20-23. Services will be at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, with weekday services at 7 p.m. This conference precedes a revival Apr. 24-28 with Jim Henry, pastor of First Church, Orlando, Fla.

WASHINGTON (BP)—Southwestern Seminary professor Gerald Marsh has been promoted by the Air Force Reserve to the rank of major general, making him the highest ranking Southern Baptist chaplain in the U.S. military services.

Marsh, professor of pastoral ministry at the Fort Worth, Texas, seminary, will maintain his current responsibilities as mobilization assistant to the Air Force chief of chaplains, Maj. Gen. John A. Collins. In that role, Marsh, with 30 years in the reserves, is responsible to Collins for all matters relating to Air Force Reserve chaplains.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—Elina Cabarcas of Cali, Colombia, has been named Spanish editor by Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention.

Cabarcas will edit Spanish publications including Nuestra Tarea, monthly Spanish missions magazine. She arrived in the United States Feb. 19 and began work Feb. 21. She replaces Gladys Caballero, who left WMU in August of 1981.

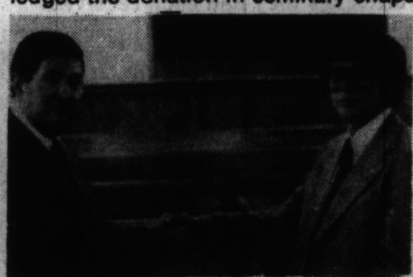
Carl Nickels, pastor of Double Springs (Oktibbeha), is retiring from the B & W Company in West Point and will be giving full time to pastoral work.

J. Mitchell Osborne, former pastor of Pope Baptist Church, is available for supply, interim pastorate, pastorate, or revival preaching. He is a graduate of Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., and has served as pastor of churches in California and Mississippi. He may be contacted at 413 E. 5th Ave., Petal, Miss. (phone 584-9457 or 544-6416).

Sid L. Taylor was ordained to the gospel ministry on Jan. 9 at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Ocean Springs. James Haynes, pastor, gave the charge to the church and to the candidate. Taylor attends New Orleans seminary. He is director of Prison Evangelism Outreach and chaplain of the Jackson County Adult Detention Center. His jail and prison ministry work on the Gulf Coast are coordinated through the Jackson County and Gulf Coast associations. He is available for supply work and speaking engagements relating to jail and prison ministries.



Thad Moore, president of the Student Coordinating Committee at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., presents a \$1,000 contribution for the Baptist World Alliance World Hunger Relief Fund to Edward Freeman, a BWA vice president. Moore is a third year divinity student from Grenada, Miss. Midwestern students and faculty gave the offering during World Hunger Awareness Week, a project sponsored by the SCC Benevolence Committee last fall. Freeman acknowledged the donation in seminary chapel services Feb. 3.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, ROSE HILL, on Jan. 30 ordained BOBBY JONES, left, to the gospel ministry. Jones is now pastor of Fair Ridge Baptist Church, Jasper County. TOMMY THORNTON, right, presented the ordination certificate.



JIMMY MILNER, right, was licensed to the gospel ministry on Feb. 4, in a service at Cash Baptist Church, Rt. 1, Lena. William Fox, left, pastor, presented the license.

Church "adopts" minister

(Continued from page 1)

worked in a funeral home while in school at Chipola Junior College in Marianna, and then been interim music director at Wildwood, Laurel, and Dixie (Lebanon) while at Carey. His hospital bills skyrocketed to at least \$100,000; he had no insurance. Members of Soso church and many other churches and individuals joined together to contribute to a John Woodham Fund. Many doctors gave discounts. Now all his bills are paid.

Because of the brain damage, he lost some big memory chunks and has had to relearn. It was the left, or "word storage" side of his brain that was hurt worst, rather than the right, or "music storage" side, so now a tune comes to him more quickly than the words of a song. He is still in rehabilitation and goes weekly to Laurel for speech and hearing therapy and to Hattiesburg for music therapy. Soso church pays his travel expenses for this therapy. (He has no peripheral vision in one eye.) Also the church has bought him a used car, and he passed a driving test not

long ago. When driving, he wears a helmet.

Though he feels that his tenor voice is not yet as strong or as good as it once was, he has again taken over his duties, while continuing in the rehabilitation program, as minister of music at Soso. This is on a voluntary basis and as yet unsalaried, so he depends upon social security checks for his livelihood.

When John and his family lived in Grand Ridge, Fla., the school had no band, so he started singing in the church choir. He won trophies in state Baptist choir festivals, and thus became interested in entering church music as a vocation.

Last summer several women in First Baptist Church, Soso, found a dilapidated little house in the center of Soso, quite near the church, for John to rent. They paneled and painted and decorated it, ready for John, who is single, to move in.

He even found a front porch swing. Church members invite him to a lot of meals, he said. In exchange, on Sundays he offers them a song.



Dress A Child At Easter — 1983 —

A GOOD GIFT:

Write or telephone us. Request sizes on a child in the age group of your choice. You may sew or shop as you choose and mail or deliver the clothing.

A BETTER GIFT:

Write or telephone us. Request our staff to take a child shopping for you. A better fit is insured and the child's own tastes are considered. \$75.00 will dress a child of 10 years or less; \$85.00 will dress a child from 10 to 14 years; \$115.00 will dress a high school or college youth, 15 years or older.

THE BEST GIFT:

Make a cash gift to our "Dress A Child At Easter" Fund. Help us dress EVERY child at the Village in church clothing for spring and summer and help us underwrite our costly clothing and shoe budget for the entire year.

We need your help on the India Nunnery Campus in Jackson, on The Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County, The Dickerson Place Campus in Lincoln County, at Deanash and at our New Albany Group Home.

The Baptist Children's Village

Box 11308 — Delta Station

Jackson, Mississippi 39213

Telephone Number: 922-2242

State crew constructs building in Honduras

A lay mission crew from Grenada-Yalobusha Association was recently involved in a Foreign Mission construction project in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

The crew represented five churches in the Association: Lyle Corey, R. C. Haley, Charles Davis, Helen Renfro, and Annette Doolittle of First Church, Grenada; Ted Coats, Jimmy Lewis, and John Caldwell of Hardy Church; Tommy Gillon of Friendship Church; Greg Massey of Emmanuel Church; Tom Holland of Oakland Church.

The project was directed by Southern Baptist missionaries Larry and Jean Elliott. A 15' x 25' block building was constructed to be used for Sunday School in Loarque, a middle-class neighborhood in Tegucigalpa. Do-

nated funds were carried to help purchase the building supplies. The group paid their own expenses, carried tools that were needed, and carried seven boxes of used children's clothes that were distributed through the Bethel Church in Tegucigalpa. Larry and Jean use this social ministry as an outreach for telling families about Jesus Christ, since Honduras is the poorest of all Central American countries.

Some of the men stayed with members of the Loarque Church. In spite of the language barrier there was a true feeling of Christian fellowship. One of the highlights of the week was a bilingual share service with Larry trying to interpret for both groups the blessings they had each received.



The volunteers and the Elliotts stand before the building they constructed in Tegucigalpa.

Rock Hill, Brandon (Rankin): March 16, 17, 18; Tommy Anderson, Paul Truitt, Pearl, evangelist; Dana Pruitt, singer; special group singing service; 7:30 p.m.; James Smith, pastor.

Bethel Baptist Church, Bogue Chitto: March 11-13; Friday and Saturday evening at 7; Sunday at 11 o'clock, with lunch at the church and afternoon services at 1; Alton Fagan, pastor, preaching; Mike Jernigan, leading the music.

Spring Hill (Copiah): youth revival; March 13-16; Bill Townsend, guest evangelist; Billy Causey, leading the music; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. at 7 p.m.; Jim Phillips, pastor.

Ebenezer (Tate), Senatobia: youth revival, March 13-18; Tom Bonds, pastor of Hollywood Baptist Church, evangelist; Archie Goodwin, minister of music and youth at Ebenezer, leading music; Alicia Castillo and Helen White, accompanists; services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday; and 7 p.m. during week; Claude Lazenby, pastor.

First, Belzoni: March 13-18; J. B. Miller, evangelist, Joelton, Tenn.; Hubert Greer, music evangelist, Brookhaven; Sunday services, 8:30, 11, and 7; Mon.-Fri. noon and 7 p.m.; Billy McKay, pastor.

A man knows he ought to slow down his eating when he notices his ties getting shorter.

Devotional A child's theology

By Ken Marler, pastor, First, Houston, Miss.
Mark 10:13-16

As I visited one of our kindergarten rooms last Monday, I noticed a six-year-old looking out the window. It was the second floor and there was so much to see. I knelt down beside him asking, "Frank (not his real name), what are you looking at?"



Marler: That six-year-old has a better understanding of God than many adults. Maybe that's why Jesus was so fond of the children. He held them, talked to them, loved them, and even chose them on at least one occasion over the argumentative disciples.

What does a child have that we adults do not have? Forgiveness, honesty, love, and generosity, to name a few qualities.

Two children can fuss, feud, and fight in one minute and an hour later be best friends. Ever see two adults do that? Ask a child a question, you get an honest answer. Nothing fake. No cover-up. (Ask a child if his dad goes faster than the speed signs, then ask his dad.) Love a child and you get loved back, no limits either. (Like the day I ate cupcakes with one kindergarten class and had to go home and change my sweater because of all the icing hugs.) Generosity—a child will give it all. Jesus loved those children and even said we adults ought to be more like them.

Sand Ridge Church, Scott County, recently observed Royal Ambassador Awards Day, for a fourth consecutive year. RAs recognized were Lad 1, Wesley George and Lesley George, membership cards and vests; Lad 2, Carlos Leach, Lad 2 pin; Lad 3, Nelson Tarvin, Lad 3 pin; Pioneers: 7th grade, Troy Meeks, membership card and RA patch; 8th grade, Michael Jones, Joe Bennett, hiking patches; 9th grade, Ricky Holland, hiking patch; 10th grade, Jerry Dennis, Scotti Hamm, guide pins; 11th grade, Gregg Bennett, Jessie Harrison, guide pins, and Raymond Jones, trailblazer pin. Counselors recognized were Young Crusader, Mr. and Mrs. James Wade, and Older Pioneers, Lindsey Shoemaker, appreciation awards.

Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis has been accredited for the 1981-83 time period by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

The Billy Graham Association has sent word to First Baptist Church, Magee, that Theen Ng of Malaysia has been assigned to that church for sponsorship to Amsterdam, '83, world evangelism conference to be held in Amsterdam, Holland, in July of this year. First, Magee, had voted to provide \$2,000 to assist an itinerant evangelist from a third world nation to attend the conference.



CASH BAPTIST CHURCH near Lena broke ground Feb. 4, after the morning worship service, for a new auditorium. Holmes Carlisle, Scott County director of missions; William Fox, pastor; and members of the Building Committee participated in the ground breaking. A large crowd was in attendance.

Goss Baptist Church, Marion County, has raised \$702.63 in a beard contest involving the minister of music, Ken Hedgepeth. The "Shave It" group raised \$501.00 and the "Keep It" group raised \$201.63. Hedgepeth's beard was shaved on Sunday night, Feb. 13. The money, plus another \$500 donation, will be used to buy a new sound system in future, according to Matt Buckles, pastor.

Showdown nearing between New Englanders and Moonies

GLOUCESTER, Mass. (EP)—Townpeople here wear T-shirts urging: "Help Preserve the Human Race, Punch a Moonie in the Face."

And last weekend a window was broken at the seafood restaurant owned by Korean evangelist Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. But the real showdown between church members and the city began last month in a courtroom. At stake is a city permit that will allow the church to use its 30-room Tudor-style mansion as a tax-free religious home for retreats.

The city has withheld the permit as its "trump card" in a four-year battle against the "Moonie invasion." So far, the church has not applied for the permit. But its members say the waterfront villa was used tax free by the Catholic Church, and they want the same treatment. The city said it will grant no permit, prompting the church to file a \$2 million lawsuit for harassment. The trial is scheduled for later this spring, but city lawyers were to ask a judge February 23 to throw out the case.

The "Moonies"—about 200 live here at the height of the fishing season—keep a low profile. They quietly fish for tuna in the summer, live in a 14-room house eight blocks from the pier, and serve tourists at their restaurant.

Townpeople in this fishing village 40 miles north of Boston picket it in the summer. Public outcry against the "Moonies" in this community of 27,000 began when the Unification Church bought the first of its Gloucester property: A seafood processing plant, four waterfront acres with plans to develop a maritime academy, and the 14-room house. But the flinty New Englander ire got razor sharp in 1980 when the church quietly spent \$1.1 million through a third party to buy the 11-acre waterfront estate and mansion.

Former city councilman Louis Sinagra, who once led town opposition, now calls the Moonies model citizens. But Kathy Hurlbert, co-founder of the Coalition for a Free Gloucester, says her feelings are more representative of this blue-collar community of Swedes, Italians, Portuguese, fishermen and farmers. "A retreat for us translates into an indoctrination camp. No one joins the Moonies, they get tricked into it."

Nineteenth Avenue Church, Hattiesburg: homecoming celebrating 32nd anniversary; Sunday, March 20; Sunday School 9:45; morning worship 11; dinner on the ground; old-fashioned afternoon sing; evening service to feature last film in the James Dobson series, "Focus On The Family"; Gene Balding, pastor.

Hinze Baptist Church, Winston County: has called Barney Watkins as pastor. He lives in Ethel.

Joe Joyner has resigned the pastorate of Antioch (Lowndes) to accept the pastorate of Temple Baptist Church, Winnsboro, La.

Charlie Martin has been called as minister of music/youth at Mt. Vernon Church, Lowndes County.

Mickey Ferguson has resigned the pastorate of New Hope Church, Oktibbeha County, to study at New Orleans Seminary.

M. H. Waltmon has resigned the pastorate of Wake Forest (Oktibbeha) to accept the pastorate of Shiloh Church (Winston).

Bible Book

Christian obligations in society

By Joe H. Tuten, pastor,
Calvary, Jackson
Romans 13:1-14

The central truth of this week's Sunday School lesson is that "Christians should fulfill their obligations in society with an awareness of the coming day of Christ." It will help us in our study of this passage if we will keep that central truth clearly in mind. The Christian is a part of his society. This is a fact which will not go away. To deny that the Christian is a part of his society is to deny reality.

What, then, should be the Christian's attitude toward society? Unfortunately, our attitude toward society often reflects a preoccupation with fault-finding and complaining. It is true that the committed Christian never will be totally compatible with the society in which he lives. It is also, true that the committed Christian frequently will be pressured, bombarded, and even threatened by ungodly persons and forces which are elements within his society. Some of the common forces of evil include alcohol, pornography, drugs, burglary, robbery, rape, murder, stealing, embezzlement, and ignorance. Jim Wingfield and his wife and two children all were killed in a matter of minutes by one drunk driver. Drunk drivers are a continual threat to Christian like Jim Wingfield and the rest of us.

But can the Christian rise only to the level of murmuring and complaining about such awful evils of society? Does the Christian have no positive contribution to make to his society? Has government "bought" the church and blunted its sense of divine mission? Has the political concept of the separation of church and state had any effect upon the prophetic voice in the pulpit? The water runs deep in this lesson on "Christian Obligations in Society."

Obligations to the state (Romans 13:1-7). Paul did not equivocate about the Christian's obligations toward government. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers" (Romans 13:1a). Everyone, and certainly every Christian, was admonished to have respect for persons of "the higher powers." Those of "higher powers" are persons who have more authority, by virtue of their office or position, than the individual citizen has. They are persons who have corporate power or authority, that is, power or authority bestowed upon them by the group to be used for the good and well-being of the group. The translation of "be subject" (verse 1) may be too strong. The idea

is voluntary submission born of mutual respect. The individual should respect the persons of "higher powers," and the persons of "higher powers" should respect the individual. The main difference in this mutual respect is that the persons of "higher powers" act toward each individual within the group in behalf of the whole group. Therefore the person who represents the combined group has "higher power" than any one person within the group. This, of course, may be a policeman, state trooper, sheriff, constable, mayor, governor, president, teacher, or anyone of many who hold positions of authority. Mutual respect inherently sets the standard high for them and us who are individual citizens.

Paul declared that government as such, "the powers that be," (Romans 13:1) are ordained of God. The first high-handed sin was murder, when Cain killed his brother Abel. Are we naive enough to think that without government such violence would no longer threaten us? God ordained government because people must have government. Persons in government are ministers of God for good (Romans 13:4). Our respect for them and for the institutions of government which they represent, and which they actually are, should be a matter of Christian conscience. It is doubtful if we as Christians have the right, under God, to engage in wholesale and indiscriminate criticism of government. Paul admonished the Christians in Rome to set a high standard of appreciation and respect for government by paying their taxes and by giving respect and honor to persons of constituted authority. This admonition certainly merits the godly attention of all Christians. If Paul could have such a positive and favorable attitude toward the Roman government, even during its severe persecution, why cannot we Christians in the United States and Mississippi have a positive and favorable attitude toward our government which so often embraces our Christian concept of compassion toward the poor and the unfortunate? Why do Christians curse food stamps and prison reform?

Obligation of love (Romans 13:8-10). Taxes can be paid in full, but the Christian has one obligation to his society which never can be paid in full. It is the obligation to love the others who make up the society in which he lives. Love is deeds, not words. Love is personal. Love actively seeks the well-being of others. It fulfills all law.

Uniform

An empowered fellowship

By John G. Armistead, pastor,
Calvary, Tupelo
Acts 2:14; 12-18; 37-38

We use the word full metaphorically in many ways. We say someone is "full of love" or "full of hate" or "full of woe" or "full of joy." This passage of scripture speaks of the experience of being full of the Spirit of God. This is how we speak of a life that is dynamically aware of the presence and power of God.

While all Christians possess the Spirit of God not all are "possessed" by the Spirit. Being full of the Spirit describes a life saturated with the presence and power of God in every area of life. Such is God's goal for every believer. This passage deals with a time when those first believers came to experience an overwhelming flooding into their lives of the presence of God. In many ways this was a unique experience of the early church. Yet, at the same time, it is in some ways normative of each believer.

I. The filling with the Holy Spirit (2:1-4).

Ten days after Jesus ascended, the 120 disciples were gathered together early in the morning. It was the day of Pentecost, the climax of the Feast of Weeks.

Suddenly they heard a sound like "a rushing mighty wind" and saw what appeared to be "tongues like as of fire" resting on one another. Both wind and fire were symbols of the presence of God. The Hebrew word *ruach* and the Greek word *pneuma* both mean "wind" or "spirit." Jesus likened the Spirit to the wind in talking with Nicodemus (John 3). Fire was frequently associated with God's presence in the Old Testament (cf., Ex. 3:2f, Mal. 3:2).

These twin phenomena made the 120 fully aware of God's coming upon them in an unusual way. They were "filled with the Holy Spirit" in fulfillment of Jesus' promise (Acts 1:4, 5).

Immediately they began to speak in other languages, proclaiming the mighty works of God. These were real languages which miraculously allowed Jews who live outside Palestine and were in Jerusalem for the feast to hear the gospel in their native tongues. The scripture does not say how long this phenomenon lasted.

Urgency motivated by the day of Christ (Romans 13:11-14).

The day is at hand, and Christ has filled these hours with opportunities. There is a work of God to be done.

II. The purpose of the filling with the Spirit (2:12-18).

A curious crowd immediately assembled. Probably the 120 were meeting near the temple. Some thought the ecstasy they saw was the result of too much sweet wine. Peter, seizing the opportunity of the gathering, immediately assured them that they were not full of wine but full of the Spirit of God in fulfillment of Joel's prophecy. These are the "last days," says Peter, that is, the critical days, and he quotes at length the prophecy (Joel 2:28-32). Through Joel God said he would "pour out" his spirit on "all flesh."

Previously only kings, priests, and prophets are spoken of as receiving the Spirit. "All flesh" means now every believer is to be immersed in God's Spirit.

Joel said when this occurs "your sons and your daughters" (i.e., your descendants who experience this) will "prophesy." To prophesy does not mean to foretell the future but to speak God's Word. That is what these believers at Pentecost did. They spoke of "the wonderful works of God" (2:11) and witnessed to Christ (cf., Acts 1:8).

III. The condition for being filled with the Spirit (2:37, 38).

Peter's entire sermon (2:14-36) brought his hearers under conviction. They cried out, "What shall we do?" (v. 36). Peter told them they must "repent." The word means to "turn" and in the New Testament means to turn from sin and death to Christ and life. Faith is implied in repentance. One cannot repent without faith nor have faith without repenting. Repentance was the basic message of John the Baptist (see Matt. 3:2) and of Jesus (see Matt. 4:17). Jesus had taught that repentance brought forgiveness of sins (Luke 24:47).

Then Peter told them they were to be baptized "for the remission of sins." The word translated "for" (*eis*) means "because of," "on the basis of," "with respect to," or "as a result of." The forgiveness comes as a result of the repentance, and they are to be baptized "because" their sins have been forgiven.

It is sin which prohibits us from living our lives filled with the Spirit of God. In a sense, repenting must be done continuously as Jesus taught us to pray for forgiveness in the Lord's Prayer. Continually we become stained and continually must repent and be cleansed that there might be a fresh filling of the Spirit.

Life and Work

Those in need

By Beverly V. Tinnin, pastor,
First, Meridian
Matt. 25:31-46

I never cease to be amazed at how Christian people respond to bona fide opportunities to help the truly needy. Recently our church was challenged to give to "world hunger" with the pledge that the money given would be dispensed by our missionaries. The donor could be certain that 100 cents of every dollar given would be used on the "fields" to feed and clothe the poor people.

Not only did our people give generously, but there was an incredible response from the television and radio congregation. People eager to help the starving seized on the opportunity to do so when assured this was not a "rip-off." A barrage of appeals that are readily recognized as self-serving and "manipulating" are heard daily. It is too bad that "better business bureaus" have to protect generous people from those who operate under the label of Christianity.

The Lord's second coming (v. 31). The reason people respond to appeals for charity is twofold: It is viewed as an outlet for their love and the judgement will reveal whether good stewardship over possessions has been practiced. Jesus' hearers understood the figure of speech employed of a shepherd at work. Everyone would be accountable at that time. The sheep accepted will be the ones stirred to action in behalf of the needy and who were obedient to the heavenly mandate.

Those to be commended (Vv. 34-36). Jesus had only one subject to deal with in his Scripture passage. It concerned what people did when confronted by those in dire need. Many would rather simply discuss a situation. It is our nature, as the disciples, to ask, "Is this man blind because of his own fault, or that of his parents?" Jesus brushed speculations aside, telling them, "I must work the works . . . while it is day. The night cometh . . . (John 9:4). Idle speculation places one in the category of the priest and the Levite in the story of the Good Samaritan. Nothing short of heroic action in behalf of the fallen Jew was acceptable.

So Jesus commands attention be given to needs of the poor at every level through which we may operate. A home with the Father is promised those who act with generosity in response to human need.

Surprise for the uncharitable (Vv. 37-40). The Pharisees felt that being religi-

ous was a matter simply between an individual and God. "Oral traditions" call for a righteousness that resulted from obedience to these. Here Jesus "pulls the rug" from under such by indicating that God is served when poor people are fed, clothed, nursed, visited, etc. The "milk of human kindness" to one another is the hallmark of the people of God. Failure to care and to reach out to the truly needy results in eternal separation from God.

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus pointed out the truth of today's lesson. The children of God are the children of mercy. They will dwell in his house forever. The hardhearted type, those who are unwilling to become involved in meeting needs of the truly hurting, will find their eternal habitation to be in hell.

1st, Baldwin to celebrate anniversaries

First Baptist Church of Baldwin will commemorate the eighth anniversary of its new building on April 3. The "Together We Build" program began shortly after Leo V. Barker came as pastor in 1973. The note of \$250,000, scheduled to be paid off in 1985, is already completed. In addition to retiring this note, the church has also built and paid for a house for a church staff member, parking lot, sound system, and church van. Total mission gifts have increased 100% during this period.

The church has scheduled a full day of commemoration. In the morning service, Tom Lester of television's "Green Acres" will give his testimony and a special program of Easter music will be presented.

At noon there will be a church-wide covered dish luncheon. Children and youth will lead in the music of the evening service. Testimonies of the spiritual impact of this endeavor will be given.

April 3 also marks the 10th anniversary of the pastor and his wife, Bonnie, at the church. Other staff members are George Martin, minister of music, and Jane Hewett, minister of children and youth activities.

Do you know that they have a building in Jackson with a thousand stories? It's the library.